



## **QATAR STEAM FAIR 2015 WINNERS COMPETE IN INTEL ARAB WORLD COMPETITION**

*Inaugural Winners Represent Qatar in Prestigious Youth Science Competition*

**1 February 2016 (Doha, Qatar):** The 2015 Qatar Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math Fair (Qatar STEAM Fair) winners recently represented Qatar at the 6<sup>th</sup> Intel International Science Competition Arab World held in Alexandria, Egypt.

The four-day competition brought together 130 students from 11 Arab countries to compete for US\$20,000 in prize money. Hussam Aitel Qadi, who won the top prize at Qatar STEAM for his research project, entitled ‘Innovative Game Software for Improving the English Language Skills of Non-Native Speakers’, was among eight students who represented Qatar in the Intel Arab fair in Egypt.

Commenting on his participation in the Intel Arab fair, Hussam Aitel Qadi said, “My participation at the Intel Arab fair was really eye-opening. I’m so grateful to Qatar STEAM for making my participation possible. It was incredible to be introduced to the amount of innovative research being conducted in the Arab world. Participating in the competition taught me how crucial research is in improving the lives of people and society as a whole. It was an honour to meet and interact with other people who are equally passionate about research.”

In May of 2015, five winning teams from Qatar STEAM joined more than 1,700 high school students from over 70 countries at the Intel ISEF in Pittsburgh, USA, the world’s largest international pre-college science competition. The event brought together the world’s top young scientific minds including Qatari students who submitted their research projects to doctoral level scientists for review, showcasing their innovative research and competing for prizes worth more than US\$5 million.

“Prestigious regional and international scientific competitions such as Intel Arab and Intel ISEF are geared towards creating excitement in science and a culture of research among the nation’s youth, while offering them the opportunity to showcase their talent on a global stage.” said Dr. Dirar Khoury, Executive Director of Research Coordination and Special Initiatives and Acting Executive Director of Education, Training and Development at Qatar Foundation Research & Development (QF R&D).

Qatar STEAM is gearing up for the second edition of its annual competition as the February 11<sup>th</sup> deadline for the submission of this year’s research abstracts rapidly approaches. The second

edition of the annual competition is set to take place from the 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> of March. Through joint collaboration, QF R&D, Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) and the Supreme Education Council (SEC), are responsible for organising the annual Qatar STEAM event. So far, 220 research plans have been submitted to the judging panel, more than double compared with the 80 abstract submissions received last year.

The nationwide competition will see students from secondary schools across Qatar compete for awards in numerous scientific categories. The competition encourages creativity with scientific inquiry and enables students to develop a wide range of skills necessary to succeed in the field of science. Winners of Qatar STEAM Fair will get the chance to represent Qatar at the 2016 edition of the renowned Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) in May in the United States and in the prestigious Intel Arab Fair held in December.

By engaging budding young scientists who will be part of the next generation of Qataris helping to lead the country towards its vision of becoming a knowledge-based economy, the Qatar STEAM Fair supports Qatar Foundation's (QF) mission to build and develop Qatar's capacity for creativity and critical thinking through research in education and science.

**Image Captions:**

**Image 1:** Qatar STEAM 2015 winners at the Intel ISEF, the world's largest international pre-college science competition.

**Image 2:** Winning team from Qatar with their project display board at Intel ISEF in the United States.

–End–

**Qatar STEAM Fair**

Qatar STEAM Fair is a nationwide competition that welcomes students from secondary schools across Qatar. The competition encourages creativity with scientific inquiry and helps students develop the range of skills used in scientific communication. Apart from being recognized as national champions, the winners of Qatar STEAM Fair will also get a chance to represent Qatar at the renowned Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) in the United States.



Qatar STEAM Fair is held annually during March at Qatar National Convention Centre in collaboration with Qatar Foundation Research & Development (QF R&D), Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) and Supreme Education Council (SEC).

This national competition aims to facilitate the research capabilities of Qatar's youth, while engaging the local community and supporting the budding scientists who will be part of the next generation to lead Qatar into a knowledge-based economy.

### **Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D)**

Leading Qatar's vision to become an international center for research and development excellence and innovation, QF R&D is home to Qatar Science & Technology Park (QSTP), a world-class hub for technology innovation and commercialisation, as well as the Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF), a globally renowned scientific research funding organization, and prominent research institutes operating at the frontiers of science, including Qatar Biomedical Research Institute (QBRI), Qatar Computing Research Institute (QCRI) and Qatar Energy and Environment Research Institute (QEERI).

### **Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential**

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organisation that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. QF was co-founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Qatar Foundation's Chairperson. QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>